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| APPLICATION NO.             | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR      | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| 10/783,971                  | 02/20/2004  | Oscar af Strom            | 0401004-001         | 4414             |  |
| 29146                       | 7590        | 02/11/2008                | EXAMINER            |                  |  |
| PATWRITE LLC                |             | MCQUELLAND, KIMBERLY KEIL |                     |                  |  |
| 408 W. MAIN ST.             |             | ART UNIT                  |                     | PAPER NUMBER     |  |
| MARSHALLTOWN, IA 50158-5759 |             | 1791                      |                     |                  |  |
|                             |             | MAIL DATE                 |                     | DELIVERY MODE    |  |
|                             |             | 02/11/2008                |                     | PAPER            |  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                        |                     |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                              | 10/783,971             | STROM, OSCAR AF     |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                              | KIMBERLY K. MCCLELLAND | 1791                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2007.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 28-36 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 28-35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 36 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .                                    |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .                        |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,985,602 to Stuart in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,270,871 to Scholz et al.

3. With respect to claim 36, Stuart discloses a transfer method of a composite sheet, including providing a composite sheet having a releasable support sheet layer (10), a plastic film layer adjacent to the releasable support sheet (12; column 4, lines 6-18), an adhesive layer (13) adjacent to the plastic film layer (12; See Figure 3); obtaining a decal by washing away the paper containing the image (20) to be transferred and exposing the outer side layer of the image layer (column 2, lines 33-39); positioning the decal so that the outer side layer of the image layer (20) contacts the surface (22); applying heat to the releasable support sheet layer wherein the adhesive migrates through the image layer (20) transferring the image into the surface (22); and removing the releasable support sheet layer (See Figures 4-5). However, Stuart does not specifically disclose a rubber-based hot melt adhesive.

4. Scholz et al. discloses a method of using pressure-sensitive adhesive constructions with removable substrates, including rubber-based hot melts adhesives (column 7, lines 26-30; column 14, lines 63-64). It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute the rubber-based hot melt adhesive taught by Scholz et al. in the transfer method of a composite sheet disclosed by Stuart. The motivation would have been to use flexible, low-cost materials to form the composite sheet (column 4, lines 11-13).

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 5/11/07 and 11/12/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
6. Applicant's arguments do not comply with 37 CFR 1.111(c) because they do not clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. Further, they do not show how the amendments avoid such references or objections. The newly added claim 36 is not found to further limit or define the invention of previously presented claim 10. Applicant has not presented any remarks addressing the merits of the previous rejection dated 12/11/06. As such, the claim remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over Stuart in view of Scholz.

***Conclusion***

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIMBERLY K. MCCLELLAND whose telephone number is (571)272-2372. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Philip C. Tucker can be reached on (571)272-1095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kimberly K McClelland/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1791

KKM

/Philip C Tucker/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1791